

*My Best skill was that I was coachable. I was a sponge and aggressive to learn.*

-Michael Jordan

As we renew our Athlete of the Month Awards it is an honor to give this award to one of the finest young athletes in the town of Braintree. Very coachable, respectful to the game, and like Michael Jordan said, a sponge when it comes to learning the game, Ryan Sorgi is very deserving of the September Athlete of the Month.

Ryan had a tremendous summer. He was a key piece for Braintree American's 12 Year Old Team as they reached the State Final Four. And now, Ryan has continued his great year in Bandit Fall Ball. During the Fall, 12 year olds make the transition to the big diamond. There is a lot to learn on the big diamond and success is achieved by those who listen and learn from their coaches, skills Ryan is continually working on. Brendan Morrissey, the Head Coach of the 13u Bandit Fall Team, believes that Ryan has had a great fall so far because of his willingness to learn. Brendan states,

*Ryan has been a great competitor this year. He has had a great approach at the plate all month and has found much success early on. Ryan has started the fall ball season batting .438 with 5 singles, 2 doubles and 4 stolen bases. He has also made two starts on the mound in which he has thrown a combined 6.2 innings pitched, striking out seven and giving up four runs. Ryan has really advanced his skills and has been extremely coachable.*

Not only has Ryan had much success within the Bandit Program this month, but he was also the #1 overall draft pick for Braintree Babe Ruth this year. What separates Ryan and other great athletes from the rest is their acceptance that there is always more to learn and room for improvement. Ryan came to me last winter to work on pitching. Over a two month period, we worked together a lot on mechanics, pitch location and mixing speeds. He listened closely, asked questions when needed and was always willing to trust me and try something new that we thought may help. I have known Ryan for a few years now and I am very confident in stating that I believe Ryan will be successful in his career because of his talent, great work ethic, and above all, his coachability. Congratulations Ryan, you are well deserving of this award, keep up the hard work.

Congratulations!

Jim Joyce